



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH**
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BOARD OF HEALTH

Caroline Tassey, APRN Interim Chair; Mary D. Hart, RN; Julie Hathaway, MD, PhD; Celia Bird, APRN, Ian McHale, MPH;

HEALTH OFFICER

William Ward, Director of Permitting & Inspections

DRAFT MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH Zoom Conference Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Attending: *Caroline Tassey, William Ward, Celia Bird, Mary Hart, Ian McHale, Julie Hathaway, Celeste Crowley*

Absent:

Meeting called to order by Interim Chair Tassey at 6:33 PM

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION TAKEN
1. Approvals: a. Agenda b. Approval of July Minutes	a. Amend February Agenda – Item 7 Emerging Issues to BPD Staffing numbers b. January minutes – No amendments	Mary motioned, Julie 2 nd . Approved with Amendments. Mary motioned, Julie 2 nd . Approved as is
2. Public Forum	No Attendees	
3. BOH Budget	Bill advised the Board members that there is \$2,000 in the FY21 Board of Health budget. Caroline opened the discussion as to how the BOH could assist those in need due to Covid-19. Mary spoke with the North End Food Pantry and they mentioned needing masks and food cards to help supplement the food donation boxes that they give out to residents.	

	<p>Ian discussed conversations he has had with the Relief Collective.</p> <p>Celia motioned to have the BOH use \$500 of their budget towards food cards for the North End Food Pantry.</p>	<p>Celia motioned, Mary 2nd. Motion approved.</p>
<p>4. Pesticide</p> <p>a. Natural Lawn Care to discuss buffer zone applications.</p>	<p>Pam from Natural Lawn Care joined the meeting to talk about their needs in applying pesticides in Burlington.</p> <p>The Board answered her questions about the buffer zone and the application process, as well as where she can find the city maps and buffer zone map.</p> <p>She will be providing applications for their current customers in the coming days.</p>	
<p>5. Chair Report</p> <p>a. Marijuana Card</p> <p>b. Hepatitis A</p>	<p>No new information for either item.</p> <p>General discussion; We have plenty of marijuana cards if anyone needs them or wants to hand them out.</p>	
<p>6. Eradicating Systemic Racism</p>	<p>Ian discussed ways to gather information regarding BIPOC residents via city reports or maps and from the U.S. Census Committee reports. The goal is to have a sense of where we can improve BIPOC needs and inclusion.</p> <p>The Board also discussed the relation between diverse neighborhoods and housing inspection scores. Meaning are the properties scoring higher or lower in diverse neighborhoods. Again, the information is to be used in improving safe living standards for the BIPOC community in Burlington.</p>	

<p>7. Emerging Issues</p> <p>a. BPD midnight policing schedule</p>	<p>Should the Board of Health provide a recommendation to the City Council?</p> <p>BPD is first on the scene; how important is that for response times including medical emergencies?</p> <p>Julie has been searching for data but hasn't been able to find anything substantial.</p> <p>What does the staffing crisis mean for the 3:30p-7am shift? Would Vt State Police (VSP) be able to step in for support? Would it be efficient for response times? Probably not.</p> <p>What kind of impact will it have on those in crisis and the community?</p> <p>Caroline mentioned that other community members would step in to assist putting them in jeopardy. Julie cited the Star Program that was implemented in Colorado to assist with their police staffing crisis. There are only two other such programs in the country. The Board would like to examine their programs and the pros and cons related to this issue.</p> <p>What is the staffing needs of a college town? Is Burlington considered a "college town" and how is the staffing affecting the campus needs for the local colleges?</p> <p>Other factors to consider when deciding how much staff for the police department are; tourists, manufacturing, immigrants.</p> <p>Ian discussed that the City Council has extensive data and all</p>	

	<p>the variables used do not put “college town” as the precedent factor. He suggested that the BOH invite some of the city councilors to a meeting to review and discuss the data.</p> <p>Some important discussions to be had are; Number of officers needed, training for diversity, and does BPD have the right mix of officers.</p> <p>This discussion will be continued at the March Board of Health meeting.</p>	
<p>8. Public Outreach / Communications</p> <p>a. Front Porch Forum</p> <p>b. Mask Handout Events</p>	<p>Front Porch Forum – Caroline will submit a post re-enforcing the benefit of wearing masks and encouraging people to continue their vigilance.</p> <p>Mask Handout Events – There are no BOH events planned, but there are masks available if needed for distribution.</p> <p>Caroline asked that BOH donate masks to the North End Food Pantry so they can be handed out to families along with their care packages.</p>	
9. Next Meeting	Thursday, March 11, at 6:30pm	Meet via Zoom
10. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm	Mary motioned, Ian 2 nd .